(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) The information is given in the enclosed statement (*See below*)

(b) and (c) does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

**Statement**

Rrual subscribers have been given the following concessions w.e.f. 1.1.96. The salient features are:

1. Free calls have been increased to 250. from 150 per billing cycle.
2. Registration fee for new connections has been reduced to Rs. 1000/-from existing Rs. 2000/for rural subscribers working from exchange systems of below 10,000/-lines.
3. Telephone rental has been reduced to Rs. 100/-bimonthly from existing Rs. 150/-for rural subscribers of exchange systems of 100 lines to below 1000 lines.
4. The installation charges for telephone connections in telephone exchanges of less than 500 lines shall be maintained at Rs. 300/-upto 31.3.98.
5. Call charges for 200 calls above 250 free calls have been reduced by 25%.
6. Commission payable to franchisees of local and STD PCOs in Panchayats and PCOs provided under Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojna has been increased from present 20% to 50% on gross turnover.
7. STD/ISD PCO franchisees in rural areas other than those covered above shall be paid commission @5% of gross turnover.

Number of villages covered in Maharashtra State, district wise are as under:—

| Name of Distt. | No. of Villages | Name of Distt. | No. of Villages |
|---|---|---|---|
| Akola | 1546 | Nasik | 1742 |
| Amravati | 1999 | Dhule | 1616 |
| Bhandara | 1624 | Ahmednagar | 1501 |
| Boldhana | 1272 | Aurangabad | 1239 |
| Chandrapur | 1777 | Jalna | 915 |
| Gadchiroli | 1601 | Beed | 1215 |
| Wardha | 1015 | Lathur | 831 |
| Yeotymal | 1751 | Osmanabad | 696 |
| Jalgaon | 1418 | Nanded | 1425 |
| Raigad | 1827 | Parbhani | 1420 |
| Rathnagiri | 1388 | Kalyan | 1146 |
| Sindhu Durg | 650 | Kolhapur | 1200 |
| Sangli | 708 | Nagpur | 1504 |
| Satara | 1573 | Pune | 1720 |
| Solapur | 1104 | Goa | 407 |

**Amount of Licence fee received from LOI Holders for basic telephone services.**

553Ä SHRI SATISH AGARWAL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of licence fee actually received from the Letters of Intent (LOI) holders for the basic telephone services;

(b) the amount of licence fee expected from the LOI hodlers for the basic telephones services upto by March, 1997; and

(c) the amount of licence fee originally forecasted/budgeated for such services upto March, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) No licence fee has acutally been received to date from the LOI holders for Basic Telephone Services. The amount of first year's licence fee payable by seven Letters of Intent holding compenies in respect or ten Circles is Rs. 1880.42 crores.

(c) The amount of Licence Fee for Basic Telephone Services Budgeted for the year 1996-97 was RS. 2074.72 crores.

**गुजरात के पंचमहल जिले में दूर-संचार का प्रसारण**

554. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी॰ सोलंकी:** क्या दूर संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या गुजरात के पंचमहाल जिले में दूर-संचार सेवाएं संकटावस्था में है;

(ख) क्या पंचमहाल जैसे आदिवासी बहुल क्षेत्र में दूर-संचार संबंधी सुविधाएं आवश्यकता से काफी कम है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है और इस संबंध में क्या उपचारात्मक उपाय किए गए है; और

(घ) क्या गत वर्ष की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट में पंचमहाल, में संचार सुविधाओं में वृद्धि करने हेतु कोई विशेष प्रावधान किया गया है?

**संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा):** (क) जी नहीं, पंचमहल में टेलीफोन सेवाएं संतोषजनक हैं।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) उपर्युक्त भाग (ख) के उत्तर को देखते हुए, प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) वर्ष 1995-96 के दौरान, पंचमहल जिले में 2723 सीधी एक्सचेंज लाइनें जोड़ी गई थीं। वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान, पंचमहल में निम्नानुसार संचार सुविधाएं बढ़ाने की योजना बनाई गई है:

(i) सकल क्षमता : 9600 लाइनें

(ii) निवल क्षमता : 6780 लाइनें

(iii) ओवरहैड पारेषण का उत्तरोत्तर रूप से उन्नयन किया जा रहा है और इसे विश्वसनीय डिजिटल माध्यम से बदला जा रहा है।

(iv) नए कनेक्शन 3000

इसके अतिरिक्त 1996-97 और 1997-98 में दूर-दराज के स्थानों के लिए 13 उपग्रह भू-केन्द्र चालू करने की योजना बनाई गई है।

**Compensation to 1984 Riot Victims**

555. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to pay compensation to all the 1984 riot victims;

(b) whether riot victims have been paid any compensation so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any ex-gratia payment was made to any of the family member of the riot victims earlier; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) The High Court of Delhi in Civil Writ Petition No. 1429/96 on 5th July 1996 directed the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi that Smt. Bhajan Kaur, whose husband had lost his life during 1984 riots, be paid a sum of Rs. 3.5 lakhs (after deducting the amount already paid) within a period of one month. The High Court further directed the Government of NCT of Delhi that widows and families of persons who lost their lives in 1984 riots at Delhi be paid a sum of Rs. 3.5 lakhs (Rs. 2 lakhs with interest quantified at Rs. 1.5 lakhs) after adjusting the amount, if any, paid to them as ex-gratia grant or compensation. The High Court also directed the State to constitute a committee to disburse the amount of compensation quantified as above after their proper identification within the period of four months.

In pursuance of the said directions of the Court, the Government of NCT of Delhi has already paid a sum of Rs. 3.30